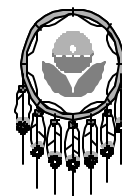


Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. X No. VII

July 1, 2002

Work Shops and Conferences

August 13-14, Pacific Northwest Tribal Air Network Quarterly Meeting, Spokane, WA. The PNTAN meeting will be hosted by the Spokane Tribe of Indians, Jon Castillo & Co-Chair Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, John Cox. For additional information contact, Trudi Takes Enemy, Yakama Nation at 509/865-2029 or takes_enemy@yakama.com.

October 20-23, 69th Annual Pacific Northwest Pollution Conference, Yakima WA. Info 503/579-1472

Nov 4-7, Region 10 Tribal Leader Conference, Lincoln City, OR. Chinook Winds Casino.

Coming this Fall 2002, A 5-day training course on Sustainability for Tribal Lands. Free. For additional information watch this newsletter or <http://www.hud.gov/local/chi/chienv2.html>

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter is published monthly at no charge

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Coastal Waters

The EPA issued the first "National Coastal Condition Report" in April describing the ecological and environmental conditions in U.S. coastal waters. The report presents a broad baseline picture of the condition of U.S. coastal waters that EPA intends to use as a bench mark for measuring progress in coastal programs in the future. Although EPA, federal and state partners, and other scientist have been assessing the condition of estuaries for decades, this report is the first summary of coastal conditions using information from 1990-2000 and is the first

federal effort to provide a picture of the health of the nation's coastal waters. According to the report, the overall condition of the U. S. coastal waters is fair to poor, and 44% of estuarine areas in the U.S. are impaired for human use or aquatic life use.

A copy of the report and a fact sheet are available at:

<http://www.epa.gov/owow/oceans/nccr/index.html>

Financial/Technical Assistance

Developed by the EPA Office of Water, this fact sheet highlights EPA-funded programs that provide financial assistance, technical assistance, and training to small communities to construct and operate wastewater treatment facilities.

Programs include the following:

★ Alaskan Native Villages Sanitation Grant Program ★ Clean Water Tribal Grant Program ★ Colonias Program ★ National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities ★ National Onsite Demonstration Program ★ National Small Flows Clearinghouse ★ Operator Onsite

Technical Assistance Program 104(g) ★ Rural Community Assistance Program ★ Small Communities Outreach and Education Network

Contact information and hotlines are provided. This four-page fact sheet may be useful to local and state officials, managers, general public, researchers, state regulatory agencies, planners, public health officials, operators, contractors, developers, and finance officers. The cost is 70 cents plus shipping.

To order, call the NSFC at 800/624-8301 or 304/293-4191, and request Item #WWFSGN157. You also may e-mail: nsfc_orders@mail.nesc.wvu.edu.

Funded by the EPA, the NSFC helps small communities find affordable sewage treatment options to protect public health and the environment. Located at West Virginia University, the NSFC

offers more than 450 free and low-cost educational products, a toll-free technical assistance hotline, five computer databases, two free publications, and an online discussion group. For more information, visit NSFC's Web site at <http://www.nsf.wvu.edu>.

Swinomish \$1.2 million

EPA Administrator Christie Whitman awarded a \$1.2 million research grant to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in Washington state. This is the largest competitive research grant EPA has ever awarded to a tribe.

The grant money will allow tribal researchers to study whether the Swinomish people are exposed to contaminants when they eat shellfish from traditional harvesting areas and if such exposures contribute to the high incidence of health-related problems on their reservation.

Scientists will analyze sediments, littleneck clams, Japanese oysters, Butter clams, and Dungeness crabs for several chemicals and heavy metals at 16 shellfish harvest areas.

Researchers will also investigate effective and culturally appropriate ways to communicate any identified health risks to the Swinomish community and nearby tribes who also participate in subsistence shellfish harvesting. Results of this project will help to develop measures to reduce health risks from shellfish consumption.

During her discussion, Whitman stressed the importance of working with tribes to address environmental issues on Indian lands.

"We have all been entrusted with the stewardship of this shared planet, and it is our responsibility to leave it cleaner for our children and grandchildren. And that is why we are here today. To work together in

partnership to develop solutions that work, and that are respectful of Tribal values and traditions," Whitman told attendees at the 6th National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management in Reno, Nevada.

The research grant to the Swinomish tribe was awarded through *Science to Achieve Results*, an EPA program that funds research grants in numerous science and engineering disciplines through a competitive solicitation process and independent peer review. For more information on this grant visit: <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/abstracts/grants/01/justice/basabe.html>.

For more information on the STAR grant program, see www.epa.gov/ncer. For information on the subsistence lifestyle research solicitation: http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/02trib_risk.html

Shoalwater Bay Tribal Environmental Laboratory

The Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe is establishing an environmental subsistence testing laboratory which tribal communities can utilize for testing water, soils, and tissues for chemical contamination. The facility has received rave reviews from agencies (both state and federal). Shoalwater recently passed its accreditation performance evaluations for semi-volatile organic compounds with very high marks. The semi-volatiles accreditation authorizes the Shoalwater Bay Environmental Laboratory (SBEL) to perform tests for 76 compounds (EPA Method 8270C) which includes pesticides, phenols, PCB's, and diesel oil constituents.

The Laboratory has also added a second gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer which will be used for testing 61 volatile organic compounds (EPA Method 8260B) such as

gasoline components (benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylene), a number of commonly used solvents (ex. acetone and carbon tetrachloride), vinyl chloride, and freon.

Accreditation is to occur this summer for this class of compounds. SBEL is also accredited for Carbaryl, a broad-based carbamate pesticide.

SBEL has over 60 years of laboratory experience "in-house". Its Analytical Chemist, Lisa Rose, has over 15 years of experience in the food industry and is an expert at extracting pesticides from tissues. The Chief Chemist, Richard Craven, has seen the development of mass chromatography almost from its inception and is called upon by both Varian™ and Hewlett Packard™ to provide technical information on necessary equipment upgrades. The Laboratory Manager, Ron Boquist, has over 14 years of experience supervising both hazardous waste handling and non-hazardous waste treatment facilities. Mr. Boquist is credited with planning and coordinating the construction of the facility and with managing the day-to-day laboratory operations.

The goal of the Shoalwater Bay Tribal Environmental Program is to develop its program to assist other tribes with their testing needs especially with regard to subsistence food issues. For more information please contact Ron Boquist, Laboratory Manager, 360/267-3101 Ex. 21 or Gary Burns,

Environmental Programs Director,
Ex. 26.

Quinault Tsunami

The Quinault Indian Tribe of Washington is the first Native American community in the country to receive a "Tsunami Ready" designation. As the first Native American sovereign nation to achieve this recognition, they set an example for other tribes to put the infrastructure and systems in place to save lives and protect property. On May 30, NWS honored the Quinault Indian Tribe in a ceremony held at the reservation located about 100 miles west of Seattle, on the central Washington coast.

"The Quinaults are the nation's first Native American nation to achieve this high honor. Members of our tribe spend a great deal of time along the coastline. We must ensure everyone understands the importance of moving to high ground or inland immediately in case a tsunami occurs," said Pearl Capoeman-Ballar, tribal chairperson. "We are pleased the Quinaults can set a standard for other tribes to emulate. We can all be better prepared to protect ourselves and the members of our communities from severe weather events."

"Storm Ready" and "Tsunami Ready" are voluntary preparedness programs providing communities with clear-cut advice on how to best use a grassroots approach and develop plans to handle local severe weather threats from floods, wind storms, or snow storms. "Storm Ready" and "Tsunami Ready" will also strengthen a community's ability to receive and use severe weather watches and warnings from the NWS. To receive these designations, the Quinaults, working with Gray's Harbor County Emergency Management, successfully met the

readiness criteria and were approved by an advisory board made up of local county emergency managers, representatives from the Washington State Emergency Management Division, and the NWS.

"Educating citizens and making those aware who live in or travel to seaside communities, especially areas in the Pacific Northwest, where earthquake dangers exist, is an ongoing goal of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Group," said Ted Buehner, Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the NWS Forecast Office in Seattle. "The National Weather Service is working with communities throughout this region to help them prepare and better protect their citizens in the event an off-shore earthquake produces a damaging tsunami."

Tribal Assistance Handbook

This handbook was developed by the Domestic Policy Council Working Group on American Indians and Alaska Natives. It is a compilation of the federal sources of financial and/or technical assistance programs available for tribal environmental management. The handbook benefits tribal environmental staff and informs federal, regional, state and local government employees about the sources of environmental assistance available in order to improve customer service to the tribes. A section on the EPA is included in the handbook. Sources of assistance span various environmental categories including: air, water, plants and animals, toxic/hazardous waste, solid waste, pollution prevention, emergency preparedness and response, and environmental education. The document is available at: www.epa.gov/indian/tribhand.htm or contact the EPA American Indian Environmental Office, 401 M. Street,

SW, Washington, D.C. 20460 or call Tonya Fish at 202/260-0769, or: fish.tonya@epa.gov.

Multi-Media State and Tribal Compliance Grant (MMSTAG) Program.

The Office of Compliance (OC) is making funds available for multi-media assistance agreements with states and tribes. Eligible applicants include states, tribes, inter-tribal consortia, territories and multi-jurisdictional organizations. OC will only consider funding projects which can be completed in 3 years or fewer and must be within three focus areas. Projects will be evaluated for potential funding based on the extent to which they address the focus areas. Applicants do not need to address all three of the focus areas in their pre-proposals; each pre-proposal will be evaluated independently. The desired projects and focus areas are as follows: (1) Tribal and State Inspector Training; (2) Program Planning and Performance Measurement; (a) Enhancing Results through Improved Regional/State/Tribal Planning; (b) Outcome measures for Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives; (c) Development of Performance Measures for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations; (3) Data Management: (a) Permit Compliance System (PCS) Modernization; (b) Air Facility System (AFS) Universal Interface. The Proposals can be in the range of \$50,000-\$200,000. The pre-proposals

may be submitted by sending a 2-5 page electronic or hard copy submissions simultaneously to their Regional Enforcement Coordinator or Division Director and to David Paintandia by July 2002. Final proposals are due to regions and headquarters by September 27, 2002. Notice of the program will be published in the Federal Register. For further information on the program contact David Paintandia, U.S. EPA, Ariel Rios South Rm. 6149D, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 202/564-8318, or in Region X contact Debbie Flood 206/553-2722

Training for Tribal LEADERS

The major purpose of conducting this **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** training is to integrate tribal governments into the National Emergency Management system. It will be held on August 12-16, 2002, at the FEMA Institute 16825 S. Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727. Attendees should consist of tribal leaders or members involved in the emergency management programs of tribal governments. For more information on this important training session contact Wayne Schmalings of FEMA at 415/923-7106, or visit their website at www.fema.gov.

Wastewater Treatment Programs

A fact sheet entitled "Wastewater Treatment Programs Serving Small Communities" is available from the National Small Flows Clearinghouse (NSFC). Developed by EPA's Office of Water, this fact sheet highlights EPA-funded programs that provide financial assistance, technical assistance, and training to small communities to construct and operate wastewater treatment facilities. For information: <http://www.nesc>.

www.edu/nsfc/index.htm

Propane Safety

New safety regulations went into effect April 1, 2002 affecting refillable propane cylinders. It is what is known as the OPD rule.

OPD stands for Overfill Protection Device and is a mechanical device that all cylinders manufactured after September 30, 1998 must include. Effective April 1, 2002 no cylinder is permitted to be filled unless it has an OPD. This affects all cylinders with capacities from 4 lbs. To 40 lbs, with some minor industrial exclusions. This means that your propane barbeque grill tank will not be filled unless it has an OPD because most of these tanks are 20 lb. Cylinders.

The OPD is designed to prevent propane tanks from being accidentally overfilled or from having the guy at the filling station do you a favor. It consists of a float, like in a toilet tank, that shuts the flow of propane off once the tank reaches 80% of the cylinders volume.

You can determine, or a qualified propane technician can determine, if your tank has the OPD device and can be filled. First of all, any tank manufactured since September 30, 1998 must have an OPD, so you can look for the date of manufacture stamped on the cylinder. A tank that has an OPD can be readily identified by a unique triangular hand wheel, or valve handle. The letters OPD are also stamped onto the hand wheel.

cMOM

Capacity, Management Operation and Maintenance (cMOM) are part of the EPA's SSO Rule that will affect all wastewater collections systems. The Water Environment Federation, in conjunction with EPA has put together a new cMOM workshop to provide information and tools that

will help utilities implement their own cMOM programs. The workshop provides a brief overview and update from EPA on the status of the SSO Rule and then covers implementation issues. Including financing, technical information on operation and maintenance issues. Developing grease control programs, and assessing assets. In addition, some local implementation information from the regulator's perspective and from the utility's perspective will be covered. The workshop will wrap up with an opportunity for attendees to ask for more detailed information from the speakers. Attendees should walk away from the workshop with many ideas on how to move various aspects of their own cMOM programs forward.

A cMOM implementation workshop is planned for Tacoma, WA, August 8-9, 2002. The format will be a day and a half workshop. Registration fees include course materials, a reference CD-ROM, coffee breaks, and a boxed lunch the first day. For more information: <http://www.wef.org/Conferences>.

Watershed Assistance Grants

The River Network and the EPA have joined to create the Watershed Assistance Grants (WAG) program. The primary purpose of the program is to support the growth and sustainability of local watershed partnerships in the United States. The deadline for applications is July 19, 2002.

For information: http://www.rivernetwork.org/howwecanhelp/howwag_2002cri.cfm

Land Use Web Site

International City/Council Management Association (ICMA) has launched a new Web site dedicated to the collection and distribution of information related to land-use controls (LUCs). The Web site has many features of interest to local, state, and federal government officials, including news and events, conferences, and an e-Library. For information: <http://www.LCUs.org>

Rural Brownfields

A new report produced by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) focuses on brownfields cleanup and redevelopment in rural settings. The report explores challenges and incentives to a range of rural redevelopment scenarios, and provides information about a range of tools and resources available to rural communities interested in redeveloping brownfields. For more info: <http://icma.org/brownfields>

Environmental Web Site

EPA has revised and updated its Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Web site. An EMS is a set of processes and practices that enable an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency. EPA's Web site provides information and resources related to EMS for businesses, associations, the public, and local, state and federal agencies. For information: <http://www.epa.gov/ems>

Smart Growth Modeling

EPA is seeking 20 communities to become Smart Growth INDEX (SGI)

partner sites. SGI is a GIS modeling tool that provides state and local government agencies, regional planning organizations, and the public with comparisons of different development scenarios. It is used to simulate alternative land-use and transportation scenarios and evaluate their outcomes using indicators of environmental performance. For information: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgipilot.htm>

Enforcement & Compliance Conference - PART II

The first part of this conference was a three day session held at the John Ascuaga's Nuggett Resort, on April 30-May 2, 2002. This PART II will be held at the Jack Reardon Civic Center, 500 Minnesota Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas, 66101-2930; tel.: (913) 371-1610. The conference will be a three-day session, held on November 19-21, 2002. This session will address the full range of topics defining the status of environmental enforcement in Indian Country, and will provide the specific training sessions and workshops to achieve the objectives identified during the 'Roundtable discussions' in Part I. The conference is being sponsored by ITCA and The Mni Sose Intertribal Water Rights Coalition, EPA, AIEO, and EPA Region 7 Regional Operations Committee. For further information contact Dawnette Owens at 605/343-6054 or 800/243-9133.

Environmental Consultant

Local officials seeking to hire consultants for environmental services are encouraged to visit Legal Government Environmental Assistance Network's (LGEAN) directory of environmental consultants. The directory, located on the LGEAN Web site, enables local government officials and other users

to identify and contact consultants who perform work in the environmental and geographical area in which they are interested. For information:

<http://lgean.org/html/consult>

Home vs. Car Ownership

A typical house costs \$125,000. Over the thirty years of home ownership, one would spend about \$250,000 on principal and mortgage payments for such a house, and--assuming lower annual real estate inflation rates looking ahead than we've experienced during the past thirty years--one would end up with equity in the form of a house with a market value of \$250,000--that is, a sum equal to the amount invested over time.

Over the lifetime of that home mortgage, you may consume eight cars, assuming that you have two cars in the household (which is average), and that each car has a working life of about seven years. The average car now costs \$20,000, not including finance charges. Figuring an average annual price inflation of 5 percent per car over the lifetime of your home mortgage, plus finance charges of 10 percent per car (but not including regular maintenance, gas, accidents, or insurance), you will spend \$440,000 on cars during that thirty-year period (assuming you never graduate to better-than-average cars) and your total equity in cars after all that time (figuring the value of two more-than-seven-year-old cars, which is what you'll

be left with at the end), will be little better than zip.

Wetlands Packet

LGEAN has combined 10 fact sheets on wetlands protection produced by the EPA into a packet available to local government officials on a first-come, first-served basis. The fact sheets provide information on types of wetlands, restoration, monitoring, and funding. The packet can be down loaded at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/factsheets>

Fact Sheet

In 1972, the U.S. Congress passed the Federal Water Pollution Control

Act and set the goal of eliminating pollutant discharge into the nations waters. This fact sheet outlines the options available to small communities and rural areas, including: ★collect wastewater, treat it, and release to stream; ★collect wastewater and treat before reuse through irrigation; and ★build and operate small treatment systems for each individual home.

The third option is generally most attractive to small communities and rural areas because it is less costly.

Developed by The Ohio State University Extension, this fact sheet emphasizes the need for onsite wastewater system management and includes a table of minimum

technology and management recommendations suited to the natural resource available.

This four-page fact sheet may be useful to local officials, managers, operators, planners, public health officials, and the general public. The cost is 80 cents plus shipping.

To order, call the NSFC at 800/624-8301 or 304/293-4191, and request Item #DPFSMG01. You also may e-mail nsfc_orders@mail.nesc.wvu.edu.

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